A.—The Hon'ble Sri T. MARIAPPA (Home Minister).—

(*a*) 30,235 acres.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Departmental examination or supervision from field to gin and press is arranged whenever an application is made either by the grower of M.A. 5 cotton or the trader.

(*d*) Primary seed plots are maintained at the Government experimental stations. Also pure seed plots covering 100 to 400 acres are maintained in each of the protected zones to return sufficient seed material for bulk distribution. The growing of this cotton is not encouraged where other cottons are grown to avoid mixing and deterioration.

(*e*) The tests are made at all stages from Kappas to final pressing and baling of lint.

Services of Tractors, Bulldozers, Excavators in connection with Grow More Food Campaign.

Q.—105. Mushir-ul-Mulk J. MOHAMED IMAM (Chitaldrug *cum* Tumkur—Muslim).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the amount spent on the purchase of tractors, bulldozers, excavators in connection with Grow More Food Campaign ;

(*b*) the number so purchased ;

(*c*) of these the number sold to private persons ;

(*d*) of the remaining, how many are in actual service ;

(*e*) the area operated upon with these machinery ;

(*f*) the number of tanks desilted by mechanical means during the last three years ?

A.—The Hon'ble Sri T. MARIAPPA (Home Minister).—

(*a*) Rs. 21,97,282.

(*b*) 127 tractors.
16 bulldozers.

(*c*) 22.

(*d*) 64.

(*e*) (1) Tractor plughing—
60,979 acres.

(2) Levelling by bulldozers—
103,809 C. yds.

(3) Reclamation—
2,078 acres.

(4) Desilting—
142,832 C. yds.

(*f*) 11.

Plea for appointment of an Officer of Nutrition.

Q.—218. Sri W. H. HANUMANTHAPPA (Bangalore District—General).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Rockefeller Foundation is partly financing the nutritional study in some Districts of the Mysore State ;

(*b*) if so, the total amount contributed by Government as well as by the said Foundation for the years 1948-49 and 1949-50 ;

(*c*) in view of the importance of such studies, whether they will provide additional funds in the next Budget ;

(*d*) whether the Government of Madras has constituted a committee and also appointed a full-time Officer of Nutrition ;

(*e*) if so, whether the Government of Mysore will appoint one Officer for similar purpose ?

A.—The Hon'ble Sri H. SIDDAIYA (Minister for Revenue and Excise).—

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No contributions in the years 1948-49 and 1949-50.

(*c*) This will be considered.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) This will be considered.

Salary grades of Nurses in Medical Department.

Q.—223. Sri V. M. MASCARENHAS (Retroceded Area—General).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the salaries paid at present to the Nurses in the Medical Department and their grades ;

(*b*) their hours of work ;

(*c*) when the salaries and grades were fixed ;

(*d*) whether they contemplate the revision of these grades ; and if so, when ?

A.—The Hon'ble Sri H. SIDDAIYA (Minister for Revenue and Excise).—

(*a*) Nursing Superintendents—

First Grade—
Rs. 200—10—300 *plus* R.A. and U.A. of Rs. 45 p.m.

Second Grade—
Rs. 125—5—150 *plus* R.A. and U.A. of Rs. 35 p.m.

Nurses—

First Grade—
Rs. 75—5/2—100 *plus* R.A. and U.A. of Rs. 24 p.m.

Second Grade—
Rs. 45—5/2—70 *plus* R.A. and U.A. of Rs. 24 p.m.

(*b*) Eight to nine hours for day duty Nurses and eleven to twelve hours for night duty Nurses.

(*c*) In December 1946.

(*d*) Not for the present.

Ruling *re:* Penalty in respect of a Member sitting in the Assembly before taking the prescribed Oath.

Mr. SPEAKER (The Hon'ble Sri V. VENKATAPPA).—Hon'ble Members will doubtless remember that on the last date of meeting, Sri H. K. Veeranna Gowdh raised the question whether a member who has not made the prescribed oath or affirmation incurred any penalty under Article 193 of the Constitution read with Article 188 by sitting in the Assembly when the Assembly was in Session. I reserved my ruling on the question. The point raised relates to Sri K. R. Sreekanteswar, a member who was returned to the Assembly at a recent bye-election. At the commencement of the meeting of that day, I called upon new members desirous of taking their seats to do so and thereupon the Secretary called out the name of Sri K. R. Sreekanteswar. At that time the member was not in the Assembly and I therefore passed on to the next item of business. Some time later the member came into the Hall and took his seat and continued to sit till the lunch interval just before which Sri H. K. Veeranna Gowdh raised this point.

Article 193 states *inter alia* that if a person sits or votes as a member of a Legislative Assembly before he has complied with the requirements of Article 188 he shall be liable in respect of each day on which he so sits or votes to a penalty of five hundred rupees to be recovered as a debt due to the State. Article 188 *inter alia* requires every member of a Legislative Assembly before taking his seat to make and subscribe before the prescribed authority an oath or affirmation in the form appended to the Constitution.

Immediately after the Assembly re-assembled after lunch, Sri K. R. Sreekanteswar was called upon and he took the Oath and signed the Register of Members. But the question raised by Sri Veeranna Gowdh still remains to be disposed, as Sri K. R. Sreekanteswar sat in the Assembly during the hours preceding the lunch interval when he had not yet taken the oath. Article 193 is, to my mind, quite clear. A member who sits in the Assembly before taking the oath becomes liable to the penalty. I find that such a provision exists with respect to almost all the legislatures in the world and is not something special or peculiar to our Constitution. It also found a place in the Government of India Act. In the British House of Commons if a member sits without taking his oath, his seat is vacated and members who have not yet taken the oath sit below the bar which is a technical barrier from beyond which the members cannot speak, and they take great care to see that they do not even inadvertently take a seat within the bar. The word 'sit' has not been defined anywhere and must therefore carry its natural grammatical meaning. I therefore hold that Sri K. R. Sreekanteswar in having sat in the Assembly while it was in session before taking his oath